

Message Text

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15

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

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FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1105

INFO DIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

AMCONSUL MEDAN

AMCONSUL SURABAYA

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SUBJECT: PORTUGUESE TIMOR (PT) DEVELOPMENTS

REF: A) JAKARTA 13350 (310925Z OCT 75)

B) JAKARTA 13439 (040410Z NOV 75)

BEGIN SUMMARY: LEVEL OF FIGHTING IN PT SUBSIDES BUT

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APODETI/ACM FORCES CLAIM CAPTURE OF ATABAI NOV. 6.

FONMIN MALIK SAYS INDONESIA ENCOURAGES PT PARTIES TO NEGOTIATE WITH PORTUGAL ON DECOLONIZATION AND PLANS VISIT TO ATAMBUA. FRETILIN CLAIMS GOI/PORTUGUESE NEGOTIATIONS IN ROME INVALID SINCE PORTUGAL CANNOT SPEAK FOR PT INHABITANTS. AUSTRALIA APOLOGIZES FOR ANTI-INDONESIAN DEMONSTRATIONS AND RENEWS OFFER OF SITE FOR DECOLONIZATION TALKS. END SUMMARY.

1. BATTLEFIELD. THERE WAS LITTLE MILITARY ACTIVITY IN PT DURING LAST SEVERAL DAYS BUT ON NOV. 6 APODETI/ACM FORCES CLAIMED CAPTURE OF ATABAI (20 KM NORTH OF MALIANA). APODETI/ACM TROOPS REPORTED ONLY LIGHT OPPOSITION AND TOOK FIVE FRETILIN PRISONERS. PRESS REPORTS MENTION INCREASING SHORTAGE OF FOOD SUPPLIES AMONG FRETILIN TROOPS AND CHARGE FRETILIN FORCES ATTACKED INDONESIAN BORDER CHECKPOINT OCT. 30 TO STEAL FOOD AND CATTLE.

2. DECOLONIZATION TALKS. FONMIN ADAM MALIK TOLD PRESS NOV. 5 THAT INDONESIA WILL ENCOURAGE WARRING PARTIES IN PT TO ACCEPT IMPLEMENTATION OF PORTUGAL'S POLICY ON DECOLONIZATION. MALIK SAID INDONESIA ACTUALLY HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH PT DISPUTE SINCE PORTUGAL IS ONLY AUTHORITY GOVERNING COLONY. HE SAID PORTUGUESE STILL COMPETENT TO ENFORCE THEIR AUTHORITY IN PT AND FUNDAMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR DECOLONIZATION LIES WITH THEM. MALIK STATED INDONESIA AND PORTUGAL HAVE AGREED ON IMMEDIATE SETTLEMENT OF PROBLEM OF 23 PORTUGUESE SOLDIERS HELD BY UDT BUT HE SAID SETTLEMENT DID NOT CONSTITUTE NECESSARY CONDITION FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF ROME AGREEMENT. ASKED IF INDONESIA WOULD ACCEPT PT IF IT WANTED TO MERGE, MALIK SAID GOI WOULD HAVE NO OBJECTION KOPKAMTIB CHIEF OF STAFF ADMIRAL SUDOMO STATED IN BANDUNG NOV. 2 THAT WHATEVER THE FORM OF GOVERNMENT IN PT WILL BE, THE IMPORTANT THING FOR INDONESIA IS THAT PT SHOULD NOT BECOME COMMUNIST. MEANWHILE FRETILIN PARTY PRESIDENT FRANCISCO DA AMARAL ANNOUNCED THAT FRETILIN REGARDED GOI-PORTUGUESE AGREEMENT IN ROME AS INVALID SINCE PORTUGAL HAD NO AUTHORITY TO SPEAK FOR PT INHABITANTS, AND NO RIGHT TO INVITE GOI TO NEGOTIATIONS ON PT. HE SAID ONLY FRETILIN CAN SPEAK FOR PT POPULATION FONMIN MALIK ANNOUNCED NOV. 6 THAT HE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WOULD VISIT ATAMBUA IN INDONESIAN TIMOR IN NEXT FEW DAYS TO OBSERVE REFUGEE SITUATION.

3. INDONESIA-AUSTRALIA RELATIONS. FOLLOWING RECENT ANTI-INDONESIAN DEMONSTRATIONS IN CANBERRA IN WHICH POLITICAL SLOGANS WERE SCRIBBLED ON HOUSES OF INDONESIAN DIPLOMATS. FOREIGN DEPT. DIRGEN FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS DIDI DJAJAININGRAT STATED NOV. 4 THAT GOI IS CONFIDENT

AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT COULD STEM ANTI-INDONESIAN MOVEMENTS
THAT COULD DISTURB RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.
AUSTRALIAN FONMIN WILLESSEE STATED NOV 5. THAT GOA HAS
APOLOGIZED TO INDONESIA FOR DEMONSTRATIONS AND WILL
REPAIR DAMAGE AT ITS OWN EXPENSE. WILLESSEE RENEWED
AUSTRALIAN OFFER TO FIND VENUE FOR PT DECOLONIZATION TALKS
IF INDONESIA AND PORTUGAL SO DESIRE. HE DENIED REPORTS
THAT ARMS WERE BEING SENT TO FRETELIN FORCES IN PT FROM
AUSTRALIA AND SAID SUCH EXPORTS WOULD NOT BE PERMITTED
BY GOA.
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